

**COVERSHEET**  
**EIA Program Report for FY2005-06**  
**And**  
**Budget Request for FY 2006-07**

**EIA PROGRAM NAME: SOUTH CAROLINA GEOGRAPIC ALLIANCE**

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# FY 2005-06 EIA Program Report

## **EIA Program Name: SOUTH CAROLINA GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE**

### **Program Mission Statement**

The South Carolina Geographic Alliance (SCGA) is a partnership between the National Geographic Society (NGS) and the state to bring the content, concepts, skills, and teaching methodologies of modern geography and the social studies to the K-12 classroom by providing high quality professional development opportunities for South Carolina educators. It seeks to provide the necessary leadership and support to improve geography and social studies instruction throughout the curriculum and across grade levels. The aim is to enable South Carolina children to be competitive in a global economy and be responsible citizens with the ability to understand and address economic, political, and environmental issues at the local, regional, national, and global scale.

There are 9,018 SCGA members, an increase of 658 members over last year. Membership is free. The SCGA is in its sixteenth year, and it has received state funding for the last nine years. In 1996, SCGA earned a four-year grant from the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education to establish a Center of Excellence for Geographic Education (CEGE). This past year the SCGA served 2,987 educators, produced a 40 page South Carolina state atlas and lesson plan CD-ROM, and applied for outside funding from the National Geographic Society to create a web-based geographic information system for classroom use. A summary of our 2004-05 academic year activities is attached.

### **Personnel**

**Coordinator and Director.** The Director of the Center of Excellence for Geographic Education also serves as the Coordinator of the South Carolina Geographic Alliance. The director/coordinator sets direction, secures funding, serves as content specialist, and facilitates an environment that allows Teacher Consultants (TCs) a maximum of decision-making and responsibility. He supervises the SCGA staff and bears responsibility for all SCGA activities. He participates in policy and decision-making at the state and national levels and is responsible for the content and technological phases of the development and production of teaching materials.

**South Carolina Ambassador for Geographic Education.** SCAGE duties include but are not limited to organizing and administering professional development activities such as school and district-based workshops, GEOFEST meetings, and Teachers in the Field programs. She presents and represents the SCGA at professional meetings, oversees the publication of our newsletter, and responds to queries from laymen, educators, schools, and school districts. She is a certified elementary school educator.

**South Carolina Resident Teacher Consultant.** The primary responsibility of the SCRTC focuses on pre-service education and the implementation of the summer institute. He/she assists the SCAGE with SCGA professional development activities and other duties. This certified teacher also coordinates outreach activities with postsecondary educators. The increasing number of workshops could easily justify a full-time SCRTC, but due to budget cuts this remains a part-time position.

**Graduate Research Assistant.** The Department of Geography at USC is nationally recognized for its work in remote sensing, cartography, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Because of this prominence, we attract high quality students who choose to specialize in these cutting edge technological areas of geography. SCGA is in the unique position of being able to utilize the talents of these students in the development of teaching materials as well as those of a distinguished faculty. These materials, distributed free to K-12 educators, include a series of eight color poster maps, a 'map folio' of over 20 outline maps, and four interactive Compact Disc (CD) products based on the historical physical, cultural, and economic geography of South Carolina as well as related activity books. This past year only one graduate assistant was supported. We are requesting support for a second graduate assistant, as was past practice, to facilitate information dissemination and product development. Increasingly we are making more of our materials available online and the graduate assistant will regularly maintain our website.

## Effectiveness Measures

**Objective 1. Enhance the content knowledge and pedagogical skills of K-12 teachers and focus on student achievement set forth in the Social Studies Standards as well as those for science and mathematics.**

### 2004-2005 Effectiveness

The SCGA reached **2,987** pre-service and in-service educators and exceeded the total number of in-service workshops by 53 percent. Our GEOFEST meetings and the Summer Institute were very successful. The SCGA staff are to be highly commended for their outstanding outreach efforts. This demonstrates the continued good stewardship of the resources allocated to the SCGA.

Activity	Planned 2004-05	Actual 2004-05	Plan v. Actual
In-Service Workshops	30	44	+ 53%
K-12 Participants	900	1426	+ 58%
GEOFEST Meetings	2	2	
In- and Pre-Service Participants	350	569	+ 63%
Professional Meeting Presentations	8	22	+ 175%
K-12 Participants	200	653	+ 226%
Summer Institute (3 graduate credit hours)	20	18	- 10%
Leadership Outreach Presentations	--	321	--
<b>Participant Totals</b>	<b>1470</b>	<b>2987</b>	<b>+ 103%</b>

We developed a 40-page South Carolina Atlas. Twenty thousand copies were published with two copies going to each South Carolina school free of charge. The remaining books are distributed free at workshops or are sold as bulk sets to pay for a future second printing. A new, full color classroom wall poster depicting South Carolina recreation and tourism will debut in early 2006. Other actions:

Landforms Poster, re-print	2,000 copies
Rivers Poster, re-print	2,000 copies
South Carolina Interactive Geography: Learn, Explore, Teach CD-ROM, re-print	1,000 copies
Integrating Geography, Science, and Math CD-ROM, re-print	1,000 copies

As of September 30, 2005 we have conducted an additional 12 in-service workshops, 4 pre-service programs, and 1 professional meeting presentation. Our event schedule, updated frequently, can be viewed at our website: <http://www.cla.sc.edu/cege/calendar.htm>. We also had 216 participants at our August GEOFEST conference.

**Objective 2. Offer incentives to encourage teachers in their individual and organizational development.**

### 2004-2005 Effectiveness

Teacher Consultants trained by the SCGA continue to participate in geographic outreach through professional conference participation. The SCGA supported the following presentations.

Activity	Papers/Sessions	Attendees
South Carolina Council for the Social Studies	15	386
National Council for Geographic Education	3	86
South Carolina Early Childhood Association	2	74
South Carolina Science Council	1	57
South Carolina Middle School Association	1	50
<b>Participant Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>653</b>

Additionally, the SCGA provided judges and readers for the State Geography BEE and participated in the national observance of Geography Awareness Week.

**Objective 3. Encourage postsecondary education institutions, professional organizations, and state agencies to expand their professional development offerings.**

**2004-2005 Effectiveness**

The SCGA offered pre-service workshops at **12** different teacher-training institutions across South Carolina. One pre-service course offered by the University of South Carolina Department of Geography was also supported by the SCGA.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Planned 2004-05</b>	<b>Actual 2004-05</b>	<b>Plan v. Actual</b>
Pre-Service Workshops	30	35	+17%
Participants	550	675	+23%
Pre-Service Courses at USC	1	1	
Participants	15	15	--
<b>Participant Totals</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>+22%</b>

**Objective 4. Professional development must satisfy the standards adopted by the National Staff Development Council.**

The format for SCGA professional development activities was established by the National Geographic Society and is in full compliance with the standards adopted by the National Staff Development Council.

**Objective 5. Expand program through collaboration with national partners.**

**2004-2005 Effectiveness**

The SCGA has completed *South Carolina: An Atlas* and an accompanying lesson plan CD-ROM. The project was funded for \$58,900 from the National Geographic Society. A grant application for approximately \$250,00 over two years has been made to the National Geographic Society Education Foundation for the development of a web-based geographic information system and curriculum. The SCGA has developed a partnership with the Tennessee Geographic Alliance for this project. Finally, the SCGA has also partnered with the Michigan Geographic Alliance to support a land-use teaching module.

**Program's Mission or Purpose to Long-Range Plan of the EOC.**

The SCGA efforts are most appropriate to **STRATEGIC ISSUE – TEACHER QUALITY. Key result – 90 percent of teachers will report involvement in quality professional development which meets the national standards.** The SCGA is a major provider of professional development activities for social studies educators in South Carolina. The SCGA conducted standards-based professional development activities and training sessions to **2,987** K-12 educators. Standards-based SCGA-developed technology and traditional teaching materials were provided free of charge to each educator trained.

Also essential to the grassroots support of SCGA and its unique community of K-12 and collegiate educators is its two-week summer geography institute (three graduate credit hours) for both in-service and pre-service teachers. Our summer institute has served **305** South Carolina educators over the years. SCGA also supports four graduate level courses specifically for pre-service and in-service teachers at the Department of Geography, University of South Carolina.

## FY 2006-07 EIA Budget Request

### Program Objectives for FY 2006-07

**OBJECTIVE 1 – ACTIONS.** SCGA plans to offer in-service workshops at individual schools or districts, conduct statewide GEOFEST meetings, conduct a summer institute, present at professional meetings, and produce technological and traditional teaching materials. We will continue to make special efforts to work with the underserved and underprivileged schools. We will continue to cooperate with the State Department of Education in offering workshops.

**Measures of success, reporting and evaluation.** SCGA will implement at least 30 in-service workshops at individual schools or districts, two full-day statewide GEOFEST meetings attended by at least 175 teachers each, and make at least 8 presentations to K-12 teachers at professional meetings. Evaluation forms developed by the National Geographic Society and SCGA will be completed at the end of each professional development activity. The Coordinator will examine evaluation responses and summaries will be made public record. SCGA will reprint current wall posters, lesson plan books, and outline map folios as needed; and distribute the new *South Carolina: An Atlas*. A new poster is in development, and the SCGA will continue to upgrade its website to make our teaching materials more accessible. We plan to conduct a summer institute with 20 in-service and/or pre-service participants. We plan to survey graduates of our summer institute program in an attempt to determine how our program has affected their classroom teaching, personal professional growth, activity with professional organizations, and participation in professional development and curriculum development at the school, district, or state level.

**OBJECTIVE 2 – ACTIONS.** SCGA plans to provide opportunities for advanced training for Teacher Consultants, encourage teachers to work for and support the National Geography Bee, encourage teachers to plan school and statewide activities associated with Geography Awareness Week, support and encourage teachers to present at state and national professional meetings, and continue two K-12 teachers as SCGA staff members.

**Measures of success, reporting and evaluation.** At least four Teacher Consultants will be supported for advanced training opportunities provided at the national level. SCGA will continue its support by supplying at least eight judges and readers at the state competition. At least ten Teacher Consultants will present at state or national professional meetings.

**OBJECTIVE 3 - ACTIONS.** SCGA plans to support one pre-service course at USC, and expand SCGA work with college/university social studies methods courses with a goal of establishing pre-service courses at teacher training institutions where no geography is taught. This program can fill a compelling need since most teacher-training institutions in South Carolina do not have a full-time geographer on staff. Importantly, the pre-service course offered at USC has been made a requirement of students earning education degrees, guaranteeing a consistent student audience.

**Measures of success, reporting and evaluation.** SCGA will provide assistance to the USC pre-service course by supplying the SCRTC and SCGA Teacher Consultants to present standards-based hands-on teaching strategies. This course is currently taught by the SCGA Coordinator who is also an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Geography at USC. The SCRTC will visit social studies methods classrooms at teacher training institutions across South Carolina. We will visit at 25 classrooms and demonstrate lessons to at least 500 pre-service teachers. The SCRTC will distribute evaluation forms at the end of each class he/she conducts. These evaluations will be examined by the Coordinator and be made public record. SCGA/CEGE plans to continue its cooperation with the SDE in offering standards-based professional development programs. We will provide content professors, master teachers, handout lessons, and teaching materials.

**OBJECTIVE 4 – ACTIONS.** The format for SCGA professional development activities was established by the National Geographic Society and is in full compliance with the standards adopted by the National Staff Development Council.

## FY 2006-07 EIA Budget Request

**EIA Program Name: South Carolina Geographic Alliance**

(1) **FY 2005-06**

**Base Appropriation: \$ 184,508**

(2) **FY 2006-07**

**Total Amount Requested: \$ 207,387**

**12.4% Increase Requested over FY2005-06 Base**

(3) **Cost Estimates for Increase or Decrease in Funding for FY 2006-07**

**Identify how the requested increase or decrease in funding was calculated.**

This budget request is an increase of 12.4% over our 2005-06 base appropriation. This request is only **4.4%** higher than our peak appropriation of \$198,671 in 2001-02. In that year we reached 2,169 K-12 educators; this year we reached 2,987. Recent budget cuts have reduced our staff and therefore our ability to reach even more educators. The demand for our services and products remains high (see attachment), and as the SCGA is the major provider of professional development activities for social studies educators in South Carolina, we continue to remain good stewards of the funds provided to us.

The majority of the budget increase of \$22,879 results from the re-introduction of a second graduate research assistant (\$10,500). This research assistant will allow us to continue our educational product development and maintain our website which is increasingly relied upon for materials distribution. The remaining increase stems from a salary increase for the resident teacher consultants who are paid the same salary they would earn in their district as a certified teacher, an exorbitant increase in fringe benefits costs, and an increase in newsletter printing and postage costs due to the increase in our membership.

(4) **Detailed justification for increase, decrease or maintenance of funding**

**Based upon the total budget request for Fiscal Year 2006-07, what would be the program objectives for this program? Explain how the proposed increase, decrease or maintenance of funding affects the current program objectives.**

The proposed funding increase greatly impacts our program. This increase allows us to re-appoint a second graduate student to assist with product development and to adequately keep up with the demand for our products. Past reductions have made it very difficult to respond to all requests from individual schools for professional development activities. Additionally, the costs of our Summer Institute (rents, tuition, fuel, etc.) have also increased while our appropriation has been reduced or remained flat.

(5) **Detailed Justification for any additional FTEs Requested**

Not applicable.

## FY 2006-07 EIA Budget Request

(6) Please complete the following chart which will provide detailed budget and expenditure history.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>2003-04 Actual</b>	<b>2004-05 Actual</b>	<b>2005-06 Estimated</b>	<b>2006-07 Requested</b>
EIA	\$180,070	\$184,387	\$184,508	\$207,387
General Fund				
Lottery				
Fees				
Other Sources				
Grant	\$3,000	\$58,900		\$256,504**
Contributions, Foundation				
Other (Specify)				
SC SDE		\$25,000		
USC Dept. of Geography	\$8,700*			
Carry Forward from Prior Year				
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$268,287</b>	<b>\$184,508</b>	<b>\$463,891</b>

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2003-04 Actual</b>	<b>2004-05 Actual</b>	<b>2005-06 Estimated</b>	<b>2006-07 Estimated***</b>
Personal Service	\$135,342	\$179,569	\$128,500	\$145,075
Supplies & Materials	\$11,588	\$15,975	\$18,108	\$18,500
Contractual Services	\$9,900	\$38,403	\$10,400	\$15,300
Equipment				
Fixed Charges	\$30,940	\$30,940	\$23,500	\$21,512
Travel	\$4,000	\$3,400	\$4,000	\$7,000
Allocations to Districts/Schools				
Employer Contributions				
Other: Please explain				
Carry Forward to Prior Year				
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$191,770</b>	<b>\$268,287</b>	<b>\$184,508</b>	<b>\$207,387</b>
<b># FTES</b>				

\*owing to appropriation cuts, the SCGA went over budget in 2003-2004. As a demonstration of support for this program, especially when it too faced budget cuts, the USC Department of Geography contributed \$8,700.

\*\*Two-year National Geographic Education Foundation grant application currently under review

\*\*\*does not include external grant monies requested and under review elsewhere

## SOUTH CAROLINA GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE FY 2006-2007 BUDGET REQUEST

	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	
SCGA Ambassador for Geographic Education	\$41,000
SCGA Resident Teacher Consultant	\$32,000
SCGA Coordinator/CEGE Director	\$35,000
Graduate Research Assistants (2)	\$21,000
Undergraduate Assistant	\$2,575
Fringe	\$21,512
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$153,087</b>
 <b>Travel*</b>	 <b>\$7,000</b>
 <b>Educational Supplies</b>	 <b>\$2,000</b>
 <b>Miscellaneous Office Supplies</b>	 <b>\$1,000</b>
 <b>Postage</b>	 <b>\$3,000</b>
 <b>Printing (Educational Materials)</b>	
Newsletter	\$4,000
Posters and Maps	\$4,000
CD-ROM Compact Discs	\$2,000
<b>Total Printing</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
 <b>Workshops</b>	
Professor Honoraria	\$1,500
Teacher Consultant Honoraria	\$2,000
<b>Workshops Total</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>
 <b>Summer Institute:</b>	
<b>Two-Week Residential – 25 Participants</b>	
Salary – Content Professors	\$1,500
Salary – Teacher Consultants	\$7,000
Salary – Graduate Assistant	\$1,500
Books and Maps	\$1,500
Postage, Copying, Materials	\$1,000
Tuition	\$4,800
Room and Board	\$10,500
<b>Summer Institute Total</b>	<b>\$27,800</b>
 <b>Total Budget Request</b>	 <b>\$207,387</b>

\*includes in-state workshop travel, summer institute field trips, and presentations for national and regional conferences

**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION**  
**\*PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS\***  
**July 2004 – June 2005**

**In-Service Geography Education**

Date	Location	Participants	Date	Location	Participants
8/5/04	Lonnie B. Nelson	48	1/10/05	Georgetown County	28
8/9/04	Lexington 5	32	1/14/05	Lexington 5 Elem.	28
8/9/04	Crayton Middle	50	1/14/05	Lexington 5 Middle	5
8/10/04	St. Peter's Catholic	12	1/18/05	Bishopville Intermediate	30
8/20/04	Oak Grove	3	1/28/05	SCECA (2 sessions)	74
8/26/04	GEOFEST	334	2/26/04	GEOFEST	235
9/3/04	Gilbert Middle	2	3/5/05	SCMSA	50
9/7/04	Pickens Middle	6	3/18/05	Kingstree Jr. High	8
9/7/04	Lamar Elementary	17	3/22/05	Guinyard Butler Middle	18
9/22/04	Wilder Elementary	41	4/1/05	GeoBee	26
9/24/04	SCCSS (15 sessions)	386	4/4/05	Alcorn Middle	7
10/5/04	Saluda Elementary	7	4/11/05	Kelly Miller Elementary	8
10/8/04	Pickens	75	4/12/05	Kelly Miller Elementary	8
10/15/04	Scranton Elementary	20	4/14/04	Pinewood Prep	25
10/23/04	NCGE (3 sessions)	86	4/18/05	Alcorn Middle	8
11/1/04	Greenwood 51 SD	6	6/8/05	Anderson 5 SD	18
11/4/04	Science Conference	57	6/6/05	Richland 1 SD	35
11/10/04	Rosewood Elementary	9	6/7/05	Richland 1 SD	28
11/10/04	Cherryvale Elementary	38	6/8/05	Richland 1 SD	12
11/18/04	York 3 SD	9	6/9/05	Richland 1 SD	16
12/1/04	Batesburg-Leesville Middle/High	10	6/12/05	Summer Institute	18
12/8/04	Powdersville Elementary	5	6/28/05	Richland 1 SD	9
12/13/04	Creek Bridge Middle/High	10	6/29/05	Richland 1 SD	30
12/14/04	La France Elementary	38		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1995</b>

**Pre-Service Geography Education**

Date	Location	Participants	Date	Location	Participants
7/16/04	Lander University	30	11/11/04	Lander University	18
7/20/04	Lander University	25	11/22/04	Winthrop University	15
8/16/04	North Greenville College	28	1/13/05	North Greenville College	28
9/14/04	USC Aiken	11	2/7/05	USC Columbia	26
9/15/04	USC Columbia	29	2/9/05	Columbia College	12
9/16/04	USC Aiken	11	2/29/05	USC Columbia	14
9/23/04	Clemson University	20	3/1/05	USC Sumter	10
9/29/04	Charleston Southern Univ.	41	3/1/05	USC Upstate	22
9/29/04	Furman University	11	3/1/05	USC Upstate - Greenville	22
10/04/04	Columbia College	10	3/2/05	USC Upstate	13
10/12/04	College of Charleston	31	3/2/05	USC Upstate	9
10/18/04	USC Upstate	11	3/8/05	Winthrop University	18
10/18/04	USC Upstate	18	3/8/05	Winthrop University	11
10/19/04	USC Upstate	12	3/30/05	Lander University	11
10/19/04	USC Upstate	24	4/8/05	Columbia College	15
10/20/04	USC Columbia	20	5/23/05	Winthrop University	16
10/26/04	Winthrop University	37	6/27/05	Lander University	22
11/11/04	Lander University	24		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>675</b>

**Other Activities:**

**Geography Instructional Materials R & D:** April 2005 SC Atlas (20,000 copies printed)

**Leadership Outreach:** 321 educators, 12 separate workshops/presentations

**Geography Education Resource Center:** Accessed 60 times, representing 40 separate schools